

BIG SUITS.

RAILROADS ATTACK FRANCHISE TAX.

Frankfort, Ky., March 23.—Four leading railroads of the state have filed suits in the Franklin circuit court seeking to enjoin the state board of assessment and valuation from certifying their franchise valuations to the counties through which they pass for local taxation.

The suits filed are by the L. and N., the Southern, in Kentucky; the Illinois Central and the C. and O. The Cincinnati Southern will file a similar suit.

The petitions raise a new and bigger question than the one raised before the board as to taxation for local purposes and attacks the validity of the taxation of the franchises for any purpose whatever. If the roads should win this contention in the courts, the franchises would not only be exempt from taxation in the future, but the state would be called upon to refund the taxes paid by them on this account for the last two years amounting to \$206,000 for each year.

TRUST COMPANY.

PADUCAH FINANCE AND SAFETY VAULT COMPANY LAUNCHED.

At a meeting of representative gentlemen of the city held last night at the office of J. D. McQuot, steps were taken to organize a company to do a general trust business under the name of the "Paducah Finance and Safety Vault Co.," with a capital stock of \$50,000. A large part of the stock was subscribed for at the meeting and it was determined to open subscription books in Paducah and the adjoining towns at once for the completion of the capital.

When the stock is all taken the incorporators will file articles of incorporation in the office of the secretary of state and begin business.

BANKERS MAKE PLEA.

Frankfort, Ky., March 23.—A committee representing the Kentucky State Bankers' association before the state board of assessment and valuation in the interest of the banks, which will shortly come before that body for assessment on their corporate franchises. The committee consisted of Col. J. D. Powers, of Owensboro, and Messrs. David Banks, of Henderson, and S. N. Leonard, of Eddyville. Col. Powers, the chief spokesman, argued that real estate is not assessed in any of the counties of the state at its cash value, as is required by the constitution, but, on the contrary, in most instances goes in "below" what it would bring at forced sale; that a great deal of personal property is not listed at all, and it is therefore unfair to assess corporate property up to its full limit.

Some anonymous and craven coward sent us for Christmas a copy of Webster's Unabated Dictionary, with a note telling us to read it and reform our spelling. We have saw some of this here spelling reform, and if we couldn't spell any better'n that, we'd quit editing a newspaper. We can't see why we shouldn't spell as we please anyhow. You take these here scholars who write about old ancient times, and they'll spell Nebuchadnezzar's name for instance as many ways as there air days in a year. We've got the same right, and if you don't like our spelling why you can try that kind of the spelling reformers.—Hardeman Free Press.

It is not generally known that on account of the opposition of his children to his second marriage—an opposition he acknowledged to have some justice in it—ex-President Harrison distributed all his fortune among his children, retaining only his house and lot in Indianapolis. He then started out to make a second fortune and made one larger than his first, which he has now left solely to his second wife and child. The action was characteristic of the man and illustrates the stern stuff of which he was made.—Chicago News.

OUR BUDGET OF FUN.

SOME GOOD JOKES, ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

Man Who Got Beaten—Then He Couldn't Find Judge, Jury, Lawyer or Defendant—The Man Braced Up Too Soon.

OUR VAUDEVILLE SHOW.



"Yesterday I saw a man drop feefy feet from ter vindow to de sidewalk down!"
"Killed quick, I guess!"
"Nien; not hurted even!"
"Dey vas pigs' feet!"

REFORMED.



"Naw; he's stopped."
"And phwat's all the noise then?"
"He's soberin' up."

WOULD HOLD MORE.



Sister—When do you want mamma to put you in long trousers?
Bobby—Not till after Christmas.

FORGOT SOMETHING.



Sir Loinstake—Walter, bring me some oysters. They must not be too small, nor too large, nor too fat or salty; and, above all things, must be cold, but not too cold; and I want them quick!

Hammond Aigs (waiter)—Yas, sah; but yo' ain't done specify yet whether yo' wants 'em wif or wifout pearls, sah.

A Color Effect.

Club—Say, mother, I saw a colored man with a gun prowling around over yonder awhile ago. Do you think there is any danger?

Mother—Well, that depends on the color. Was he red?

"No, he looked rather blue."
"Oh, well, if he looked blue he must be green. Guess there's no danger."—Life.

SQUIBS.

Count Boni is still waiting a message of congratulation from brother George.

Sarah Bernhardt took \$4,000 out of Louisville for a three hours' "spiel" in French.

The Chinese will now stand aside and see John Bull and the Russian Bear "have it out."

The assessment for Fayette county just returned is \$30,210,492. Our neighbor is prosperous.

Did Mr. Bryan join the Buffaloes when he went to New York? asks the Commercial Appeal.

There seems to be an epidemic of fires. Every day brings an account of a very destructive fire.

A California Fruit Growers' association has cornered the prune output. Verily, they are full of prunes.

In those Russian student riots the girls are now taking a hand. It is usually more womanly to give than take.

Louisiana planters, after much experimenting, have found that tea can be grown in that state. The results are very satisfactory.

Cloverport citizens are showing the proper spirit. Already plans are a foot for rebuilding the town and every citizen is taking an active part in the work.

Capt. Norton, of Louisville, in response to an inquiry if he would book Mrs. Nation for a lecture replied that the Auditorium was not a freak museum.

The Sun continues to receive suggestions for its Sunday issue. They are appreciated highly. We want more of them. What suggestions have you?

Over \$3,000,000 has been lost to the cotton growers alone by the Boxer outbreak and American import trade has almost been annihilated by the succeeding state of affairs.

A Tennessee editor wants Carnegie to start some free circulating libraries and let up on the libraries for awhile. There are some "topers" in Paducah who will second the motion.

The Children of the Confederacy are to wrestle with the problem of a club pin. What's the matter with the familiar and peculiarly appropriate "safety" variety?—Louisville Times.

Now that the gas plant is going to be improved and enlarged and a full-blooded, dyed-in-the-wool, free-silver-or-bust Democratic paper is soon to be located here, Paducah ought to be well supplied with gas.

The denizens of the Court street dens of vice and infamy went around to the city hall yesterday and "whacked up" with the city officers. They will now be allowed to pursue their nefarious calling unmolested until the time for another "divvy" comes around. Thrift, thrift, Horatio.

Chicago operators have a corner on the pork market, 'tis said. There are several "hogs" in Paducah they can add to their drove and please the town much.

The growing of rice is assuming such proportions in the states of Louisiana and Texas that the planters are considering an educational plan, as they call it, but which is really an advertising campaign, to acquaint the American people with the great value of rice as a food. The value of rice is but little understood by our people and the capability of the southern states for its growth is yet hardly tested.

The state of New York is considering a plan for a new Erie canal and for the enlargement of two small canals which will cost over \$53,000,000. Only steam, electric or other mechanical motors are to be used so that the old-time towpath will be abolished. The fact that such an enormous expenditure is proposed shows the esteem in which a great and rich community, that has had much experience with it, holds water transportation as a regulator of freights. There is no question but that this vast sum or a greater one will be spent by the state of New York on her canal within the next ten years.

Edwin A. Abbey, an American artist, has been selected by King Edward to paint the coronation scene. Score another for America.

Millions of Women Use Cuticura Soap Exclusively

MILLIONS of Women Use CUTICURA SOAP, exclusively, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, in the form of baths for annoying irritations, inflammations, and chafings, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and many sanative antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women and mothers, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. No amount of persuasion can induce those who have once used it to use any other, especially for preserving and purifying the skin, scalp, and hair of infants and children. CUTICURA SOAP combines delicate emollient properties derived from CUTICURA, the great skin cure, with the purest of cleansing ingredients and the most refreshing of flower odors. No other medicated soap ever compounded is to be compared with it for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, scalp, hair, and hands. No other foreign or domestic toilet soap, however expensive, is to be compared with it for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. Thus it combines in ONE SOAP at ONE PRICE, viz., TWENTY-FIVE CENTS, the BEST skin and complexion soap, the BEST toilet and BEST baby soap in the world.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humor, \$1.25.

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP (25c.), to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle; CUTICURA OINTMENT (50c.), to instantly allay itching, inflammation and irritation and soothe and heal; and CUTICURA RESCUE-VENT (50c.), to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the severest humor when all else fails. Sold throughout the world.

Fortunes Made in California!



ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS invested last year by a young man in California oil stock made a profit of over \$30,000 to the fortunate investor. Others are making fortunes daily. WHY NOT YOU?

Los Angeles Oil and Refining Company

capital stock only 350,000 shares, par value \$1 per share, offers 25,000 shares of treasury stock at the low price of 25 cents per share. This is ground floor price.

This company has nearly 400 acres of oil lands in the heart of the celebrated Los Angeles oil fields. Every well put down will undoubtedly be a producer. Work has already begun and within sixty days we will be producing oil.

An investment of \$25 in stock of the LOS ANGELES OIL AND REFINING COMPANY will surely double when our first well is completed, and may be worth several hundred dollars.

Our next block of 25,000 shares will be offered at 50 cents per share. Subscriptions for our first block of stock are pouring in fast. Get in on the ground floor and get the benefit of the rise in price.

Prospectus and order blanks on application. Send draft, postal or express money orders to

Los Angeles Oil and Refining Company,

315 Homer Laughlin Building, Los Angeles, Cal.

CANTBILL A FACTOR.

HE WILL DIVIDE M'CORMACK'S STRENGTH.

Louisville, March 22.—Politicians from over the state who were seen at the local hotels during the last few days concurred in the belief that ex-Gov. James B. McCreary no longer had the best chance of being elected United States senator next year in the event that the "regular" Democrats controlled the general assembly that is to be chosen this fall.

There are now unmistakable signs that the organization, instead of standing solidly by McCreary, will divide its strength. In fact, a considerable number of the machine leaders, including those who are directly under the domination of Arthur Goebel, of Ohio, are openly advocating the candidacy of Circuit Judge James E. Cantbill, of Georgetown.

Here in Louisville the city races are absorbing the attentions of the Goebelian Democrats, but the majority of the petty local bosses favor McCreary. Cantbill has only a few backers of influence in the city, but he is much stronger in the county than either his friends or his enemies expected him to be at the outset.

Edwin A. Abbey, an American artist, has been selected by King Edward to paint the coronation scene. Score another for America.

TOMATOES WANTED.

The Paducah Canning Factory will pay 22 1/2 cents per bushel for all tomatoes delivered at the factory this season. Contracts wanted for 100 acres. Call at once at my office at the Palmer House for contracts. Leave word at hotel office, if I am not in.

GEO. H. DAINES, President, Paducah Packing Co.

Barred Plymouth, Rock eggs, \$2 per 13, \$4 per 50. Fine, vigorous stock from leading strains.

G. W. WINGO, Farmington, Ky.

When in Paducah Stop at

L. L. LEVIN'S

Grocery and Saloon,

Corner Tenth and Burnett Streets

POTTER'S LUNCH ROOM,

219 Court Street.

Come and see me while in Town.

The German emperor wore a shamrock on St. Patrick's day. Probably he intends running for an office soon.